

Docket No.: **1232-4563****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Yasuo Okutani and Masayuki Yamada  
**Group Art Unit:** 2654  
**Serial No.:** 09/386,052  
**Examiner:** Angela A. Armstrong  
**Filed:** August 30, 1999  
**Date of Allowance:** December 20, 2004  
**Confirmation No.:** 9961  
**For:** SPEECH SYNTHESIZING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND STORAGE MEDIUM THEREFOR

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.312**

Sir:

A Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due dated December 20, 2004, with an accompanying Notice of Allowability, was issued in the above-identified patent application. The Issue Fee, due on March 21, 2005 (under 37 CFR §1.7 as March 20, 2005 falls on a Sunday), is being paid concurrently herewith.

Please amend this application prior to issuance, in view of the following:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the **Listing Of Claims** which begins on page 2 of the paper; and

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.